

# The True Northerner.

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PAW PAW, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1912.

Whole Number 6735

## CANNING FACTORY WILL OFFER PRIZES

Chance for Young Agriculturists to Distinguish Themselves.

### FOUR FIRST PRIZES OFFERED

Prizes to be Payable in Gold Opportunity for all to Compete. Plan Will be Appreciated.

A new phase in agriculture in this county is announced by the manager of the canning factory. This is a number of prizes to be given for the best crops of tomatoes and beans to be grown for and sold to the canning factory in 1913. Four first prizes payable in gold, two for crops of tomatoes and beans grown outside the city limits and two for the best crops grown inside the Paw Paw city limits. The latter is open to any man, woman, boy or girl or any family that has one-eighth of an acre available for tomatoes or beans. For the beginners, Mr. Davis, the canning factory manager, will furnish directions regarding soil and fertilizers, planting and cultivation so that no one need suffer a handicap from inexperience. What varieties to grow and all useful help regarding good seeds and plants will be forthcoming. Mr. Davis has also arranged with Mr. Potts just outside the city limits on the south for plots of from one to five acres each, wherein Mr. Potts will plow and fertilize and prepare the ground for planting, furnish hand cultivators for anyone who wishes to raise tomatoes or beans for the canning factory in the prize contest. This is a most liberal proposition and in addition Mr. Potts will take his rent in a share of the crop.

Everyone can have a chance at the prizes besides a profitable crop next season. Families may combine or clubs may be formed to work for the prizes. The idea is to determine how many tons of good ripe tomatoes suitable for canning may be raised an acre. Sunday School classes or high school students can enter this contest and take the beginners' course in agriculture while earning enough money to take a short course at Lansing. This is an opportunity that no one should miss. If clubs are formed five or six miles from Paw Paw the question of bringing in the product can be solved by members alternating in bringing in the daily pickings. For full particulars regarding soil, preparing the ground, kind of fertilizers to use, amount of seed or plants to the acre, varieties to be grown, how the gold prizes are to be awarded see W. T. Davis, Manager of the Canning Factory.

## PAW PAW LODGE ELECTS OFFICERS

Officers Chosen at Meeting Tuesday Night To be Installed at Regular Meeting, Dec. 27.

Following is the list of officers elected last Tuesday evening in Paw Paw Lodge No. 25, F. and A. M., for the ensuing year: Wm. C. Mosier, W. M.; F. N. Wakeman, S. W.; Willard Warner, J. W.; Ford Wilber, S. D.; Harry Nash, J. D.; E. F. Parks, Treas.; W. C. Y. Ferguson, Sec. The incoming Master announces the following appointments: C. W. Reynolds, T.; J. W. Van Tassel, S. S.; Henry L. Charles, J. S.

The above officers will be installed at the regular meeting, Friday evening, December 27, which night will be known as "Past Master's Night". The Past Masters of Paw Paw Lodge, No. 25 will confer the M. M. degree, after which refreshments will be served. This will without doubt be one of the most enjoyable meetings of the year, and it is expected that every member of the lodge will be present on "Past Master's Night."

### KALAMAZOO AS "FLAG CITY"

Kalamazoo will, after January 1, be designated as the "Flag City." From every flagstaff will float the stars and stripes—not only on anniversaries and holidays, but every day will be a gala day and the colors that every American citizen loves will greet the visitors at that city upon their arrival. What could give one a more cordial welcome than the graceful fluttering of the American flag, proclaiming freedom of thought and nation wide fraternity.

"The flag city?" It sounds good and we know it will look good.

Miss Josephine Malkuska, a former teacher in our school, and now teaching in Kalamazoo, was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Will North last Saturday.

## YOUNG PEOPLE MEET WITH FINE RECEPTION

High School Orchestra and Girls Quartette Entertain Large Audience at Glendale.

The High School orchestra and Girls quartette, under the management of Prof. A. H. Robertson of the public schools, went to Glendale last Friday evening and presented a program of music and readings. This was one of the numbers of their lecture course, but was also for the benefit of the High School band.

The orchestra consists of seven pieces ably handled by the following: Milton Engle, Fred Latshaw, Frank Pierce, Gardner Ackley, Harley Mutchler, Darrell Weston, with Miss Frieda Snow at the piano. The orchestra play well and their music is up-to-date and varied. Mr. Robertson is their leader and also played a cornet solo.

The young ladies of the quartet are: The Misses Lettie Tubbs, Laura Cole, Margaret Cole and Frieda Snow.

The reception given the young people from here by Glendale was very cordial, and was appreciated by their visitors. The entertainment was given at Woodman hall.

### LEAVE FOR SOUTH.

Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Buskirk and daughter Aileen, also Mr. Buskirk's mother and Mr. and Mrs. John Searles left this morning for a pleasure trip through the Southern states. They may stay until spring, but their plans are uncertain. They will visit Texas, but will eventually go to Florida.

### A RESPONSIBLE POSITION.

The friends of Miss Ada M. Smith will be glad to learn that she has been appointed to the position of superintendent of Providence hospital, Detroit. Miss Smith visits here frequently and is a graduate of our schools. Afterward she entered Borgess hospital training school and was also graduated from there. Her success is due to hard work and perseverance and her friends here are glad to know of her advancement.

## RURAL CARRIERS WILL BE KEPT BUSY

The Usual Holiday Season is Not Enjoyed by These Employees of Uncle Sam.

The annual Holiday rush is on at the Post Office and it will be a busy place from now until after Christmas. This is one of the Holidays that cannot be enjoyed by the Rural Mail Carriers. In order that there may be no delay in the delivery of Christmas packages and that all gifts may arrive at their destination on Christmas day, the postoffice department requires the rural carriers to make their trip on Christmas the same as any other day. The postoffice employees, however, will be able to enjoy a part of the day. The postmaster states that the office will open for business from 7:00 to 9:30 a. m. and from 4:00 to 6:00 p. m. He asks patrons of the office to take notice of the above stated hours, that they may not be disappointed, should they desire to be served on Christmas day.

There will be a meeting of sportsmen on Thursday, the 15th inst., at the Burdick house at 2:00 p. m., to consider proposed and much needed amendments to the game laws of Michigan. The invitation is general to men interested and a good attendance is desired.

### CORDIAL WELCOME EXTENDED

J. V. Smith of Coopersville is the new proprietor of the Racket store, formerly owned and conducted by Fay Weston. Mr. Smith comes to us a stranger, but the people of Paw Paw have extended to him a cordial welcome, and it will not take long for him to feel that he has a place here and is a real citizen of this beautiful little village.

The business of which he is now the head has been brought by careful management and courteous treatment of patrons to be one of the most popular stores in town. The stock is up-to-date and carefully selected and of such a variety that customers can easily find something to suit their taste unless it be out of the ordinary.

W. J. Smith, father of the new proprietor, will also have an interest in the business and the family will soon move their household goods here. They will occupy the west side of the W. J. Thomas house on east Main street. Mr. and Mrs. Weston have not made any definite plans for their future, but will live here for a few months at least. It was nine years ago that they came here from Big Rapids and started the Racket store. It was on a much smaller scale, but the stock was increased when the new store was built four years ago. Wherever they decide to go they will have the best wishes of their large circle of friends here.

## A Merry Christmas.

The True Northerner sends greetings to its hundreds of friends this week with the familiar words: We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. There are so many ways to be merry that we know we are wishing one thing for one person and an entirely different thing for someone else, and while we are merry, remember there are those in trouble who are utterly unable to forget the unhappiness of the moment, and remembering the significance of it makes it all the harder to bear.

## Stories of Long Ago

We who are living in this age of prosperity and advanced improvements rarely stop to think of the older people who are still with us unless we happen to have grandfathers or grandmothers in our own family and thereby hear and know of some of the crude ways and primitive styles of their early days.

We have among us people who lived in a very early day and consequently they can tell us more accurately just what the conditions were at the beginning of the last century than we could possibly learn by reading, and get also a clearer idea of the existing condition.

The reminiscences of the old settlers of "Michigan, My Michigan" are brimful of interest, and we who know electric lighted, paved, steam heated Michigan ought to stop occasionally and probe into this past and see if we can appreciate to the smallest extent the difficulties under which the foundation was laid for the comfortable homes and splendid institutions of this day. Here are some of the stories of the long ago:

MRS. MARY MCCOLLUM.

Mrs. Mary McCollum is one of the women of this town whose story will be of interest. She has lived through nine decades and has seen and lived the changes from year to year until nearly a century of time has passed over her.

Mary Moore was born in Hannibal, Oswego county, N. Y., 20 miles from Oswego near Lake Ontario in the year 1816, on the 24th day of July. Her birthplace was on an Indian reservation near the Indian village of Tonawanda. She lived here until she reached womanhood and was married to John McCollum. Their family consisted of eight children when they came to Michigan sixty years ago. They came directly from their New York home to Paw Paw. The day they arrived here happened to be government pay day for the Indians and it had the appearance of a hunting ground. There were only a few stores and houses in the hamlet. The Dyckman house was doing business in small quarters then and there were a couple of dry goods stores, groceries and a few other places to buy the necessities for the families.

Mr. and Mrs. McCollum came west with the intention of buying land, so in a short time they bought 50 acres of land in the locality of Gliddenburg, paying three dollars per acre for it. Soon after it was worth five dollars per acre and Mr. McCollum kept adding to his acreage until instead of 50, a farm of 112 acres belonged to him. When he acquired this land it was a forest. In going through the woods to reach it and to locate it, it was necessary to blaze the trail by chopping the trees, else one would become bewildered.

The log house was at last erected, containing one room. The modern houses of today all possess a "living room," usually a sitting room combined with it.

### COTERIE CLUB PROGRAM

Mrs. Jessie Wilson arranged an enjoyable program for the ladies who found time at this busy season to attend the meeting of the Coterie this week. Mrs. Thorpe, a former resident of Paw Paw, who is spending the winter here, gave two readings, "The Clown's Baby" and "The Suffragette," in her usual happy manner. Mrs. Mabel Miller's paper on "Oscar Hamilton," one of the most versatile men of our time, was received with appreciative applause. The program closed with a piano duet by Miss Lettie Tubbs and Irwin Douglas.

The social committee will serve the annual chicken pie dinner in the parlors of the Presbyterian church December 27, at 12:30. Each member is requested to bring china and silver for herself and house guest.

A nice line of Brooks' box goods chocolates that look good and taste good at Joe Sherman's.

library or music room, but the living room of 60 years ago on a clearing of land meant the whole house and was bedroom, dining room, reception room, kitchen and music room. Who shall say that the music of the home at the sleepy time of the children was not far more soul stirring and effective than the most classical selection of the reproduction of the voice of Calve or Melba that comes to us from the expensive Victrola today. This house was covered, not with tile roofing, but a thick layer of "shakes." Reader, ask your grandchildren who are advanced students in foot ball and golf, how to make a shake roof.

There was also another kind of shake that this family became familiar with. The scientific name for this popular act was just plain "ague." In speaking of this part of the poverty of pioneering Mrs. McCollum, who is now nearly 97 years of age with a mind much stronger than the body, says: "How we used to dread the day that would send us to bed and make it necessary to put on all the bedding we could lie under, and still the chill was dreadful."

Microbes were not known in those days and flies and mosquitoes had access to the house and still these people were strong and the whole family have lived to a good age. Vetison was a most common edible and corn bread made in the old bake oven was the food that made the children grow. Health was the inheritance of this sturdy family and of the eight children, Charlie McCollum of Gliddenburg, who died two years ago on the old homestead, was the first one in 50 years (one child died young) to go. He was also the oldest one. The others are John of Spokane, Wash., Alfred of Salina, Cal., Adelbert of Elmira, N. Y., Mrs. Amanda Barnes and Mrs. Lovisa Hulbert of Kalamazoo and Mrs. Sarah Drown of this place.

Mrs. McCollum said upon being asked as to the amusements of the day: "We considered our work a pastime, for it had to be done and we were strong and happy. The spinning, the weaving and the manufacturing were all interesting, but you must know of the visiting, too. We used to yoke the ox team and take the children in the evening to the home of some neighbor and we had the best times that you can imagine. About 12 o'clock the hostess would get supper and a merry time was the result." Could the chug chug of an automobile possibly furnish more real pleasure than the faithful old "Buck and Bright" of 1850? Mrs. McCollum, the subject of this story, is now living at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Drown, in this village. This has been her home for twelve years. This is only a short portion of the interesting history of this long life. May the generations to come be only half as useful as she, they will not have lived in vain.

To be Continued.

### THE MAPLE CITY CLUB

Last week Thursday evening, Dec. 12, was the first session of this ever-popular club. The committee, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon, Mr. and Mrs. Bangs Warner, Mr. and Mrs. Tarbell, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Young, Mr. and Mrs. Dillie, Mr. and Mrs. Will Young and Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Cavanaugh were the hosts and hostesses.

At 6:00 o'clock a magnificent spread was enjoyed by about forty couples. While the debris was being cleared away a drawing contest (just like they have at Kenyon's) was held and Miss Neta Butler drew the lucky number and received a beautiful basket of sweets.

Dancing, cards and society chat occupied the remainder of the evening until midnight, when all departed with many thanks to the committee for one of the most enjoyable evenings in the history of the club.

## HAVE ESTABLISHED PERMANENT OFFICE

Bureau of Plant Industry Has Established Offices With Hon. Jason Woodman in Charge.

For the benefit of farmers, the Bureau of Plant Industry, with the United States Department of Agriculture and the Kalamazoo Commercial club operating, established permanent offices at the postoffice building yesterday in charge of Jason Woodman.

The office is to be open all day on Wednesday and until 2:30 Saturday afternoons at which time farmers of the county may submit questions of farming for solution. In this manner the technical researches of government men are placed at the disposal of the farmer in the county. A question turned in at the local office is taken up and the opinion of experts given on it. Special attention will be given to intensified farming.

The farm bureau is already attracting considerable attention in Kalamazoo county and the farmers seem inclined to take advantage of the opportunity of learning by the experience of others and planning co-operation. Mr. Woodman is well equipped to perform his duties and is giving his entire attention and energy to the enterprise.

### Special Convocation.

There will be a special convocation of Paw Paw lodge No. 34, R. A. M. Monday evening, December 30. Work in the P. M. and M. E. M. degrees on three candidates.

### A Warning.

A man by the name of Lou Soule has been representing himself as a buyer of furs for me. I do not know this man and have never had any business dealings with him. I hereby warn any person from selling furs to any one calling himself my agent, with the exception of W. E. Jacobs, who is buying furs for me.

BENJAMIN BURLINGTON, Lawton.

## HOLDS ITS PLACE IN THE FRONT RANK

The Well Known Clothing House of E. Smith & Co., Among the Solid Institutions of This Part of Mich.

In looking over the files of The True Northerner it is noticeable that the name of E. Smith & Co. is to be found in its columns, in these many years. Indeed, one would have to go back to the very early days of the village if the name did not appear among the list of business men and firms. They say that over 90 per cent of men who start in the mercantile business make a failure of it, and if this is true it speaks well for this well known business house that it has been able to



weather the financial storms which have occurred during the long period of its existence and still hold its place in the front rank among the substantial mercantile establishments of Southwestern Michigan.

The store was founded in 1847, by E. Smith, who was at the head until his death in 1894. During the early days of his business career in Paw Paw there appeared to him one morning an applicant for the position of clerk in the person of Geo. M. Harrison, who was duly installed and who so thoroughly mastered the intricacies of the clothing business and proved so popular a salesman that the people of Van Buren county that Mr. Smith considered him worthy to succeed him as manager of the Great

Whale Clothing Success. As a consequence, on the death of Mr. Smith, some years later, Mr. Harrison assumed control of the business, which he has conducted up to the present time. Associated with him is Mr. Will Gorton, also connected with the house for many years prior to Mr. Smith's demise. These two, with the assistance of the genial "Jimmie" O'Grady, constitute

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## NEW MANAGER FOR SOUTH MICHIGAN

Former Manager Declines to Accept the Office for Another Year

### BEST INTERESTS CONSIDERED

Hubert E. Durkee is the Unanimous Choice of the Board of Directors for the Position

The Lawton Leader of last week contained the following report of a meeting of the board of directors of the Southern Michigan Fruit association held there on December 7:

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Southern Michigan Fruit association last Saturday, Hubert E. Durkee was chosen manager for the ensuing year; Mr. C. Dunham, who has been manager for so many years, having declined to accept the office for another year. In selecting a manager at this time the board have established a new precedent, but knowing that it was necessary to make a change and that it would be to the advantage of the growers to make arrangements for supplies, such as twine, posts, fertilizers, spraying material, baskets, etc., as early as possible they deemed it for the best interests of the association to take this action.

The election of Mr. Durkee at the present time does not affect the work of Mr. Dunham for the present season, as he will finish out his year and close up the season's business. The board were unanimous in the choice of Mr. Durkee and the result would have been the same even with a change in membership.

The new manager is well qualified for the duties of the office, having been connected with the association since its organization. He has served as auditor for a number of years, weighed grapes for two seasons, had charge of the loading for nine seasons and the past year was assistant manager. Mr. Durkee is a successful grape grower, having a vineyard of 25 acres which is worked and cared for by the best methods. He has always resided in Lawton and still lives in the house where he was born. He has a high standing in the community for honesty and ability, and those who know him believe the board has made a wise choice.

Mrs. John Mutchler, Mrs. F. N. Wakeman, Mrs. B. L. Breed, Mrs. M. D. Buskirk, Mrs. Will Payne and several other Paw Paw ladies were Kalamazoo passengers on the Fruit Belt last Monday.

## RE-ELECTED FOR THE THIRD TERM

Mrs. J. C. Woodman is Highly Honored at Recent Meeting of State Grange.

Mrs. J. C. Woodman has just returned from a two weeks' trip to the northern part of the state, where she attended a meeting of the State grange held at the Soo, December 10. Mrs. Woodman was re-elected to the office of chaplain for her third term, meaning six years of service. It is indeed a compliment to our townswoman that she received every vote, which was something a little unusual.

Mrs. Woodman was called from there to Flint to conduct the funeral services of Dr. Davison, a noted woman practitioner of 36 years of professional work in that city. She was well known from her prominence in all kinds of social reforms. Mrs. Woodman came in from Flint last Tuesday.

### CAPTURED TWO FIRST PRIZES

At the annual exhibition of poultry in Chicago this week in which over 4,000 birds were shown from over 20 states, chickens being shipped from all parts of the United States to try for the ribbons, were six Kalamazoo exhibitors, among them F. M. Farrant, father of our Frank of The True Northerner, who is well known in Paw Paw.

Mr. Farrant is an enthusiast over poultry and his birds are always dressed in blue at every show, he having taken prizes at all the principal shows of the country. At Chicago this week he captured two first prizes and one second on three entries in single comb brown leg-horns. He certainly has the right to crow long and loud over his victory. Young Frank is to be congratulated too, for he has an interest in the chickens also.

Order your Ice Cream for Christmas day now. Orders for fancy cream received later than Monday will not be filled. Orders for plain ice cream filled any time. The Emporium.